#### KELLEY DRYE & WARREN LLP

A LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP

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April 3, 2013

#### By HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Unity Telecom, LLC. Section 63.71 Application

NANE SC SC MAIL / DMS

#### Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Unity Telecom, LLC and pursuant to Section 63.71 of the Federal Communications Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(b), enclosed please find an original and four copies of the Company's Section 63.71 Application for the discontinuance of selected domestic telecommunications services.

Also enclosed is a duplicate of this filing. Kindly date-stamp the duplicate and return it to the courier.

Respectfully submitted,

Winafred Brantl

Counsel to Unity Telecom, LLC

Enclosures

# Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of	)
	)
Section 63.71 Application of	)
Unity Telecom, LLC	)

#### **SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION**

Unity Telecom, LLC f/k/a dPi Teleconnect, LLC ("Unity Telecom" or "Applicant") hereby seeks authorization pursuant to Section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the "Act"), 47 U.S.C. § 214, and Section 63.71 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, to discontinue its provision of selected domestic telecommunications within the Company's service territory – specifically the Company's *Home Phone* plans, which consist of prepaid residential local exchange and long distance services – in AL, AR, CA, DE, FL, GA, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, MO, NC, NJ, NV, NY, OK, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, and WV.

Unity Telecom, a Delaware limited liability company, operates as a provider of domestic competitive telecommunications services throughout the United States. Currently, Unity Telecom offers its customers a range of wireline, wireless and Voice-over-Internet-Protocol communications services. Unity Telecom does not provide international services.

In response to changing market conditions, Unity Telecom has determined that it is no longer feasible to offer its current *Home Phone* service package in the above-listed states.<sup>1</sup> The proposed discontinuance will not result in harm to the affected customers because they are being

Following implementation of this decision, Unity Telecom will review the intrastate and interstate communications markets and determine in what manner the Company can most effectively compete with other service offerings and/or in other service territories.

provided with ample notice of the discontinuance and equivalent service offerings are available from other carriers. One or more other carriers in each state provide similar prepaid packages and many more carriers, including the incumbent carriers, provide these services on a post-paid basis.

The Applicant provides the following information pursuant to Section 63.71 of the Commission's Rules:

- 1. <u>Name and Address of Carrier</u>: Applicant's name and address is Unity Telecom, LLC, 1330 Capital Parkway, Carrollton, TX 75006.
- 2. <u>Date of Planned Service Discontinuance, Reduction or Impairment</u>: Subject to receipt of necessary federal and state regulatory authorizations<sup>2</sup>, the proposed discontinuance is scheduled to take place on May 31, 2013.
- 3. <u>Points of Geographic Areas of Service Affected</u>: Unity Telecom proposes to discontinue the provision of its residential *Home Phone* service offerings in AL, AR, CA, DE, FL, GA, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, MO, NC, NJ, NV, NY, OK, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, and WV.
- 4. <u>Brief Description of Type of Service Affected</u>: The services affected by the proposed discontinuance consist of prepaid residential wireline local exchange and interexchange services.
- 5. <u>Brief Description of the Dates and Methods of Notice to All Affected Customers:</u> On March 27, 2013, Unity Telecom sent written notice to affected customers by first-class mail in accordance with the requirements of Section 63.71(a) of the Commission's rules, informing them that the Company will cease provision of their prepaid residential local and long distance services effective May 31, 2013. The notice clearly underscores that customers must make

Unity Telecom understands that this application will be granted automatically on the 31<sup>st</sup> day after public notice of filing unless the Commission notifies the Company to the contrary.

arrangements with another carrier to avoid loss of service and provides a toll-free telephone number that customers may call to reach Unity Telecom service representatives for assistance with this transition. A sample copy of the notice sent to Unity Telecom's customers is appended as *Exhibit A*.

6. Whether the Carrier is Considered Dominant or Non-Dominant with Respect to the Service to Be Discontinued, Reduced or Impaired: Applicant is considered non-dominant with respect to the affected services.

In accordance with Section 63.71 of the Commission's Rules and concurrent with this filing, a copy of this Application is being mailed to (i) the Governors and Public Service Commissions (or equivalent) of AL, AR, CA, DE, FL, GA, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, MO, NC, NJ, NV, NY, OK, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, and WV and (ii) to the Special Assistant for Telecommunications for the Secretary of Defense.

Additional questions regarding this application should be addressed to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Unity Telecom, LLC

By:

John J. Heitmann

Winafred R. Brantl

Kelley Drye & Warren LLP

3050 K Street, NW - Suite 400

Washington, DC 20007

Tel: (202) 342-8819 Fax: (202) 342-8451

E-Mail: wbrantl@kelleydrye.com

Its Attorneys

Dated: April 3, 2013

# Exhibit A Sample Customer Notice

Unity Telecom

March 27, 2013

[Customer Name]
[Address Line 1]
[City, State, Zip]
[Telephone Number]

## Notice of Discontinuance of Your *Home Phone* Telephone Service by Unity Telecom, LLC

#### Dear Customer:

Unity Telecom, LLC ("Unity Telecom") regrets to inform you that it is preparing to cease providing its *Home Phone* prepaid local and long distance service to customers in a significant part of its service area. In order to avoid a disruption in telephone service, you must make arrangements for new service before the cut-off date noted below. You may choose any local telephone service company that operates in your area. Unity Telecom would be pleased to continue to serve you with one of our other telephone plans. Please call us at 855-864-8983 for more information. Alternatively, the names and telephone numbers of other local telephone service companies, which also typically provide long distance service, are listed in your telephone directory. Customer service representatives at these companies will help you to select services to most effectively replace your current Unity Telecom service. If you arrange for service with a new provider before your Unity Telecom *Home Phone* service is terminated and wish to keep your current telephone number(s), please be sure to address this with your new service provider.

Subject to regulatory approvals, your service cut-off date is May 31, 2013. If you do not arrange to have your telephone service provided by a new telephone company (or change to a different Unity Telecom service plan) prior to May 31, 2013, you may lose telephone service (which means that you will be unable to make local calls including 911) and you may not be able to keep your current telephone number(s) with a new service provider. Effective with this notice, Unity Telecom will no longer make any changes to or reconnect existing *Home Phone* service and will not accept orders for new *Home Phone* service.

The Company is revising its business plan and continued provision of *Home Phone* service in a number of states is no longer feasible. This discontinuance affects customers for Unity Telecom's *Home Phone* service plans in AL, AR, AZ, CA, DE, FL, GA, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, MI, MO, NC, NJ, NV, NY, OK, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, WV.

Please be aware that Unity Telecom will not charge any switching fees in connection with your transition to a new provider.

Unity Telecom

The Federal Communications Commission requires us to provide you with the following notice in connection with its review of the proposed discontinuance:

The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments as soon as possible, but no later than 15 days after the Commission releases public notice of the proposed discontinuance. Address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the § 63.71 Application of Unity Telecom, LLC. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

We thank you for being a Unity Telecom *Home Phone* customer and wish you well with your new provider. Should you have any questions or be interested in discussing other Unity Telecom service offerings, please contact Unity Telecom at 855-864-8983.

Sincerely,

Unity Telecom, LLC 1330 Capital Parkway Carrollton, TX 75006

**Note**: State law in various jurisdictions requires that we clarify the timing for return of deposits in connection with this discontinuance; however, Unity Telecom does not collect deposits from its customers.

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that true and correct copies of the foregoing Section 63.71 Application were served this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2013 upon the following persons, at the addresses listed below, by U.S. mail, postage prepaid, or as otherwise noted.

Secretary of Defense Attn: Special Assistant for Telecommunications Pentagon Washington, D.C. 20301

Alabama
Office of Governor Robert Bentley
State Capitol
600 Dexter Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36130

Walter Thomas, Secretary Alabama Public Service Commission 100 North Union Street, Suite 850 Montgomery, AL 36104-3702

Arkansas Office of Governor Mike Beebe State Capitol Room 250 Little Rock, AR 72201

Ms. Jan Sanders Commission Secretary Arkansas Public Service Commission 1000 Center Street Little Rock, AR 72201

California
Office of Governor Edmund Brown
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Michael Amato Director, Telecommunications Division California Public Utilities Commission 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102 William O'Brien, Executive Director Delaware Public Service Commission 861 Silver Lake Boulevard Cannon Building, Suite 100 Dover, DE 19904

Delaware
Office of Governor Jack Markell
150 William Penn Street
2nd Floor
Dover, DE 19901

Florida
Office of Governor Rick Scott
PL 05 The Capitol
400 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Ms. Ann Cole Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399

Georgia
Office of Governor Nathan Deal
203 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Mr. Reece McAlister Executive Secretary Georgia Public Service Commission 244 Washington Street Atlanta, GA 30334

Indiana
Office of Governor Mitch Daniels
State House, Room 206
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2797

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Communications Division 101 West Washington Street Suite 1500 East Indianapolis, IN 46204

Kentucky Office of Governor Steven L. Beshear 700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 100 Frankfort, KY 40601

Mr. Jeff R. Derouen Executive Director Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Boulevard Frankfort, KY 40601

Louisiana Office of Governor Bobby Jindal P. O. Box 94004 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004

Eve Kahao Gonzalez Secretary Louisiana Public Service Commission 602 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Maryland Office of Governor Martin O'Malley State House 100 State Circle Annapolis, MD 21401

Mr. David Collins
Executive Secretary
Maryland Public Service Commission
William Donald Schaeffer Tower
6 St. Paul Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

Massachusetts Office of Governor Deval Patrick State House Office of the Governor, Room 360 Boston, MA 02133 Catrice Williams
Secretary
Massachusetts Department of
Telecommunications and Cable
1000 Washington Street, Suite 820
Boston, MA 02118

Missouri Office of Gov. Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon Capitol Building Room 218, P.O. Box 720 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Steven C. Reed Secretary Missouri Public Service Commission 200 Madison Street Jefferson City, MO 65102-0306

Nevada Office of Governor Brian Sandoval Capitol Building Carson City, NV 89701

Ms. Donna Skau Commission Secretary Nevada Public Utilities Commission 1150 East William Street Carson City, Nevada 89701 New Jersey

Office of Governor Chris Christie The State House P.O. Box 001 Trenton, NJ 08625

Ms. Kristi Izzo, Secretary New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Suite 801 Newark, New Jersey 07102

New York Office of Governor Andrew Cuomo State Capitol Albany, NY 12224 Mr. Jeffrey Cohen, Acting Secretary New York Public Service Commission Three Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12223-1350

Ms. Gail L. Mount Chief Clerk North Carolina Utilities Commission 4325 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-4325

North Carolina Office of Governor Bev Perdue 20301 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

Oklahoma
Office of Governor Mary Fallin
Capitol Building
2300 Lincoln Blvd., Room 212
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Ms. Peggy Mitchell Secretary Oklahoma Corporation Commission P.O. Box 52000 Oklahoma City, OK 73152

Pennsylvania Office of Governor Tom Corbett Room 225 Main Capitol Building Harrisburg, PA 17120

Ms. Rosemary Chiavetta Secretary Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building P.O. Box 3265 Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

South Carolina Office of Governor Nikki R. Haley 1205 Pendleton Street Columbia, SC 29201 Jocelyn Boyd Executive Director South Carolina Public Service Commission PO Drawer 11649 Columbia, SC 29211

Tennessee Office of Governor Bill Haslam Tennessee State Capitol Nashville, TN 37243-0001

Ms. Sharla Dillon Dockets & Records Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, TN 37243

Texas
Office of Governor Rick Perry
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, TX 78711

James Galloway Central Records Clerk Texas Public Utilities Commission PO Box 13326 Austin, TX 78701

Virginia
Office of Governor Bob McDonnell
State Capitol
Third Floor
Richmond, VA 23219

Mr. Joel Peck Clerk of the Commission Virginia Corporation Commission P.O. Box 2118 Richmond, Virginia 23218

Office of Governor Earl Ray Tomblin State Capitol 1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East Charleston, West Virginia 25305 Ms. Sandra Squire Executive Secretary Public Service Commission of West Virginia 201 Brooks Street Charleston, WV 25301

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